Attorney's Docket No.: 34874-068 /2003P00059US

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of generating a graphical user interface (GUI), the method comprising:

grouping graphical user interface objects into object groups;

defining an arrangement for a plurality of the object groups, each object group corresponding to at least one relationship in the arrangement;

assigning a graphic pattern that is distinct for each relationship;

generating a graphical structure for each object to be represented in the GUI;

generating a background region for the GUI for each object group based on the assigned graphic pattern for the corresponding relationship for the object group one or more related graphical structures associated with an object group, wherein the background region is based on the distinct graphic pattern for the relationship corresponding to the object group; and

generating the GUI having at least two concurrently displayed and non-overlapping background regions each including, wherein one or more related graphical structures are within the background region.

2.   (Original)   The method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising displaying the GUI.

3.   (Original)   The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the graphic pattern represents a color to be displayed in a background region.

4.   (Original)   The method in accordance with claim 3, wherein each relationship in the arrangement is assigned a different color.

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5.   (Original)   The method in accordance with claim 4, wherein the different color is progressively lighter or darker according to the significance of the relationship in the arrangement.

6.   (Original)   The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the graphic pattern represents a shading pattern to be displayed in a background region.

7.   (Original)   The method in accordance with claim 6, wherein the shading pattern includes a plurality of lines.

8.   (Original)   The method in accordance with claim 6, wherein the shading pattern includes a color.

9.   (Original)   The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein at least one graphical structure is selectable by a user of the GUI for interaction.

10.   (Original)   The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the arrangement is a hierarchy and each relationship in the hierarchy is a level in the hierarchy.

11.   (Currently Amended) A graphical user interface (GUI), comprising:
            two ~~one~~ or more background regions <u>concurrently</u> displayed in the GUI, ~~wherein~~ each background region <u>being</u> ~~is~~ based on a graphic pattern that is distinct, and the graphic pattern <u>being</u> ~~is~~ assigned to a relationship in an arrangement defined for a plurality of object groups, ~~and wherein~~ each object group includ<u>ing</u>~~es~~ one or more <u>graphical user interface</u> objects<u>, the</u> <u>two or more background regions being arranged so that they do not overlap</u>; and
            one or more graphical structures displayed in the GUI, each graphical structure representing one of the one or more objects and being disposed in at least one of the <u>two or</u> <u>more concurrently displayed</u> ~~one or more~~ background regions corresponding to the relationship of the object.

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12.   (Original)   The GUI in accordance with claim 11, wherein the graphic pattern represents a color to be displayed in a background region.

13.   (Original)   The GUI in accordance with claim 12, wherein each relationship in the arrangement is assigned a different color.

14.   (Original)   The GUI in accordance with claim 13, wherein the different color is progressively lighter or darker according to the significance of the relationship in the arrangement.

15.   (Original)   The GUI in accordance with claim 11, wherein the graphic pattern represents a shading pattern displayed in a background region.

16.   (Original)   The GUI in accordance with claim 15, wherein the shading pattern includes a plurality of lines.

17.   (Original)   The GUI in accordance with claim 15, wherein the shading pattern includes a color.

18.   (Original)   The GUI in accordance with claim 11, wherein at least one graphical structure is selectable by a user of the GUI for interaction.

19.   (Original)   The GUI in accordance with claim 11, wherein each relationship in the arrangement is a level in a hierarchy and the arrangement is a hierarchy.

20.   (Currently Amended) A method of generating a graphical user interface (GUI), the method comprising:
    grouping graphical user interface objects into object groups;
    assigning a graphic pattern that is distinct for at least one object group;
    generating a graphical structure for each object to be represented in the GUI;

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generating a background region for the GUI for <u>each object group having a</u> ~~one or more~~
~~related graphical structures associated with an object group, wherein the background region~~
~~is based on the~~ distinct graphic pattern corresponding to the object group; and

generating the GUI <u>such that,</u> ~~wherein~~ one or more related graphical structures are within
<u>each of at least two currently displayed, non-overlapping, and visually distinct</u> ~~the~~
background region<u>s</u> and the GUI is configured to be modified by a user.

21.   (New) A graphical user interface (GUI), comprising:

two or more background regions concurrently displayed in the GUI, each background
region being based on an opaque graphic pattern that is distinct, and the graphic pattern being
assigned to a relationship in an arrangement defined for a plurality of object groups, each
object group including one or more graphical user interface objects, the two or more
background regions being arranged so that they do not overlap, with at least one of the
background regions circumferentially surrounding one other background region; and

one or more graphical structures displayed in the GUI, each graphical structure
representing one of the one or more objects and being disposed in at least one of the two or
more concurrently displayed background regions corresponding to the relationship of the
object.